

II. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for dispensing volumes of liquids, comprising:

a hinged septum for installation to a liquid channel having a flap inclined at an angle with respect to ~~the~~a longitudinal axis of ~~a~~the liquid channel, and

a deposition device ~~for depositing liquid on the~~arranged to contact the flap,
~~wherein the deposition device is arranged to contact~~ to deposit liquid on the flap.
2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the flap includes a rim having a shape that a rim of the flap is substantially matching to the~~matches~~ a contour of an inner wall of the liquid channel, such that the liquid channel may be sealed along the rim of the flap.
3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the ~~hinged septum flap~~ includes a surface provides well for providing a defined termination of a stream of the liquid or a breakaway of droplets of the liquid~~initial or finishing conditions when dispensing volumes of liquids.~~
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the flap is fabricated from an elastic foil.
5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the flap subdivides the liquid channel into a first chamber and a second chamber when the latter is in ~~the~~a sealed state.
6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~claim 1~~claim 5, wherein the flap is attached to a hinge that exerts an elastic restoring force on the flap directed toward the first chamber.
7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the deposition device contacts the flap has~~at a contacting and drainage~~ surface for accommodating liquid.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~claim 1~~claim 5, wherein the deposition device is arranged to contact a face of the flap that faces the first chamber when the hinged septum is properly installed in the liquid channel.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a rim of the flap contacts ~~the~~an inner wall of the liquid channel, forming a liquid-tight seal therewith, thereby forming a valve, such that, in the sealed state, the liquid channel will be blocked with respect to leakage of liquid from a second chamber into a first chamber, while leakage of liquid from the first chamber into the second chamber will be possible when the flap is swung to an opened position by an actuating device of the deposition device.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, ~~wherein~~including ~~only a single,~~
~~narrow hinge attached to the flap near its rim is provided.~~

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hinge is configured in the form of a leaf-spring hinge.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hinge and flap form a monolithic structure.

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hinge is fixed to a fastener ~~which may be fixed to a tubing section comprising the liquid channel and which is provided with an aperture through which the deposition device for depositing liquid in the liquid channel may be inserted and extends beyond the edge of an inner wall at the end of the tubing section.~~

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hinge is fixed to the liquid channel.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hinged septum includes a hinge and a gasket base and one end of the hinge is attached to the flap and ~~its other~~another end of the hinge is attached to a gasket base.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the hinge, flap, and the gasket base form a monolithic structure.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hinge and the flap, ~~as well as the gasket base provided, if any,~~ are fabricated from a ~~thin, flexible,~~ elastic foil.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~the~~a rim of the flap is in the form of an ellipse.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the hinge is arranged ~~in the vicinity of the~~along a major axis of the ellipse.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~claim 1~~claim 17, wherein the foil has a thickness ~~that is a great deal less than either the~~a width of the flap, ~~measured across its rim,~~ or ~~the~~a inner diameter of the liquid channel ~~in the vicinity of the sealing surface.~~

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the thickness of the foil is less than 1/50 of either the width of the flap, ~~measured across its rim,~~ or the inner diameter of the liquid channel ~~in the vicinity of the sealing surface.~~

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~claim 1~~claim 17, wherein the foil is configured such that it may swivel and/or twist and/or buckle when acted upon by ~~the~~a restoring force exerted by the ~~elastic~~ hinge.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the ~~contacting and drainage surface on the~~ flap has a roughened surface for guiding liquid.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the roughened surface ~~consists of~~includes a number of mutually parallel microchannels.

27. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~claim 25~~claim 26, wherein the roughened surface has a sawtooth profiled cross section at an angle to the microchannels.

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the ~~contacting and drainage section on the flap~~ has hydrophilic and/or hydrophobic liquid pathways.

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the microchannels ~~and/or liquid pathways~~ extend away from the hinge.

30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the ~~microchannels and/or liquid pathways~~ extend away from the hinge.

31. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

Aa liquid-separation equipment comprisingincluding:

a hinged septum for installation on a liquid channel having a flap inclined at an angle with respect to ~~thea~~ longitudinal axis of a liquid channel, and

a deposition device ~~for depositing liquid on~~arranged to contact the flap; ~~wherein the deposition device is arranged to contact~~ to deposit liquid on the flap.

32. (Currently Amended) A method for dispensing volumes of liquids, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

~~generating well-defined initial or finishing conditions when dispensing volumes of liquids, by using a flap of~~ installing into a liquid channel a hinged septum having a flap inclined at an angle with respect to ~~thea~~ longitudinal axis of ~~athe~~ liquid channel, and

using a deposition device to ~~deposition~~contact the flap and deposit a liquid on a surface of the flap.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, further comprising ~~a step of using~~ the deposition device as an actuating device for swinging the flap from a closed position to an opened position.